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Community *notes*

Fine Arts, Lovely Crafts in a Great Show

The Slayton House at Wilde Lake Village Center is proud to host the 23rd annual ArtFully Wilde Fine Craft Show. ArtFully Wilde has a unique way of blending a traditional craft show and fine craft gallery for your optimum shopping experience. They offer a wide variety of excellent work done in fiber, metal, wood, glass, ceramic, jewelry and much more!

Plan to stop by on Friday, November 13, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. when you can browse through the wonderful handcrafted items as you enjoy the reception with live music and refreshments, or come on Saturday, November 14, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and take your time finding that special item you've been searching for. They look forward to visiting with you during the 2015 show, where you can meet and talk with the artists while you shop.



Share the Bounty of Thanksgiving

Community Action Council of Howard County asks the community to help more than 800 Howard County families receive Thanksgiving dinner with the trimmings through Wegmans' "Care about Hunger" campaign.

Customers may donate \$1, \$3, \$5 or more (please) when checking out at Wegmans Columbia store now through November 28. Your donation will go towards a dinner which costs approximately \$20.

Also, you may donate directly to the Community Action Council at <http://www.cac-hc.org/>.

Greeting

This week's newsletter highlights community events that are informative, beneficial and just plain fun. Enjoy what Howard County has to offer!

Smaykey

North Laurel Connections Project

Howard County's Office of Transportation will hold an open house on Tuesday, November 17, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the North Laurel Community Center, 9411 Whiskey Bottom Road in Laurel, to gather feedback on the North Laurel Connections bicycle and pedestrian project.

The goal of this project is to develop preliminary designs for a series of on- and off-road facilities to improve pedestrian and bicycling connections from the trailhead of the Patuxent Branch Trail at Savage Park to the North Laurel Community Center and continuing to the Laurel Race Track MARC Station and the Laurel MARC Station.



After a short introduction and presentation, staff members will be on hand to provide more information on the project and gather community feedback on the best walking and cycling routes to connect and link these important destinations.

For more information about the North Laurel Connections Project, visit the [website](#) or contact David Cookson with the Office of Transportation at 410-313-31310 or email dcookson@howardcountymd.gov.

Energy, Health & Climate Town Hall

Join the League of Women Voters of Howard County on Tuesday, November 17, 7:00 -9:00 p.m. at the East Columbia Library (6600 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, 21045) for this Town Hall event to learn about clean renewable energy, climate change, its impact on health and what this all means for Marylanders. Interact with energy leaders, local legislators and nonprofit and advocacy groups and clean energy businesses.



Clarence Lam, member of the Maryland House of Delegates (12), Environment and Transportation Committee, and Mike Tidwell, Director, Chesapeake Climate Action Network, will discuss Maryland's efforts to help address climate change and grow Maryland's clean energy economy. Find out how you can help improve clean, renewable energy for your home or business and the importance of acting on climate in Maryland.

The town hall is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided. For more information contact Betsy Singer at betsysing@gmail.com. To RSVP, email HoCoClimateChange@gmail.com or LWVHC at info@howard.lwvmd.org. The town hall is sponsored by the League of Women Voters Howard County, the Maryland Climate Coalition, HoCo Climate Change, Transition Howard County, Sierra Club and Chesapeake Climate Action Network.

The Emperor's Nightingale

Candlelight Concert Society opens the 2015-2016 CandleKids Series with *The Emperor's Nightingale*, an original musical theater production based the classic tale by Hans Christian Anderson. Performances take place on Sunday, November 22, 2:00 & 4:00 p.m. at the Horowitz Center's Smith Theatre, Howard Community College.

The timeless tale comes to life with a modern adaptation of Andersen's classic fairy tale and incorporates elements of both Japanese and Chinese traditional theatre. In the story, Tommy's grandparents use the allure of the ancient Chinese game of Mah-jongg to pull Tommy away from his glowing computer screen and into a fantastical world of the Emperor and his nightingale. In the end, Tommy learns that, sometimes, "the old ways are the best ways."

Candlelight Concert Society's CandleKids Series provides a stimulating introduction to the performing arts for families with children ages 4-10. These engaging, 50-minute performances may feature classical ensembles, opera, jazz, dance, percussion, and puppetry, and are followed by a Q&A with the performers.

Tickets are \$11 in advance and \$12 at the door. For tickets, more information or to download the performance study guide, visit the [website](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/familyinstitute/). To purchase tickets by phone or reserve handicapped accessible seating, please call 410-997-2324.

Young, Professional, Love the Arts

Are you between the ages of 25-45 and interested in seeing the Columbia Festival of the Arts grow? The Columbia Festival of the Arts is looking for a few energetic new faces to join its Young Professionals Group.

We are looking for a wide variety young professionals at all stages of their careers and from all industries. The only requirement is that they have interest in or passion for the arts and a desire to support the mission of the Columbia Festival of the Arts which is to present a world-class celebration of the arts and entertainment that attracts, engages, and inspires the broad and diverse community it serves.



Join this opportunity, mingle with fellow arts enthusiasts and enjoy light refreshments on Tuesday, November 17, 5:00 -7:00 p.m. at the Ellicott City Welcome Center, 8267 Main Street, Ellicott City. RSVP to diana@columbiafestival.com.

Listen to Great Music for Free!

Join The Columbia Orchestra for a FREE Open Rehearsal on Monday, November 16 at [The Gathering Place](http://www.thegatheringplace.com) in Clarksville (6120 Day Long Lane), as they prepare for their next concert: COPLAND & ELGAR. The program includes Bernstein's Overture to Candide, Sibelius' Violin Concerto, Copland's Danzon cubano, and Elgar's Enigma Variations. Rehearsal lasts from 7:30 - 10:00 p.m. Come and go as you like! Sit within the orchestra, enjoy wine and cheese, and mingle with the musicians during the break. Families are welcome! RSVP's aren't required, but are appreciated. Click [here](http://www.thegatheringplace.com) or call 410-465-8777 to let them know you're coming!

Parenting in the Digital Age

Learn about the latest technology websites and devices that kids and adolescents are using on Thursday, November 19, 6:30 - 8:15 p.m. at Bain Center (5470 Ruth Keeton, Way, Columbia). Parents will be able to discuss common concerns such as safe use of



social media, texting and driving, and inappropriate use of photos. One of the most important topics will be learning how to have an honest conversation with your teen about appropriate online behavior. All participants will have the

opportunity to take part in an open discussion or submit questions anonymously. This event is FREE but space is limited; pre-registration is required. To ask questions or to register by phone: (voice/relay): 410-313-1940. You may register online at <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/familyinstitute/>.

It's Time to Celebrate

The community is invited to the 18th Annual Celebration on Saturday, November 21, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Bain Center (5470 Ruth Keeton Way, Columbia). This event honors the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and includes a potluck dinner and live music. Attendees are asked to bring a main dish to share and participate in the raffle. For more information contact Leslie at 410-381-4899 or cuba_is_hope@comcast.net. This event is co-sponsored by the Howard County Office of Human of Rights and the Howard County Friends of Latin America.

Reminder: Leaf Cleanup

The collection of yard trim (leaves, grass and brush) in plastic bags will cease countywide as of January 1, 2016. Some neighborhoods (such as those with food scraps collection) have transitioned to the following collection requirements:

- Paper bags
- Rigid reusable containers
- Bundle brush and branches with twine (4' or less)

Paper yard waste bags are available at the Alpha Ridge Landfill (bundles of 10, one bundle per household per visit). You may find the bags at your local hardware store or shop online for value pricing.



This transition must take place as the facilities compost or mulch yard trim. Plastics bags are detrimental to the machinery. Yard trim set out in plastic bags will **not** be collected. Residents will need to re-package the material and set it out on their next collection day. Find more information, including your transition date on [DPW's webpage](#).

Do not allow a landscaper not to blow the leaves and debris into the storm drains and yard waste cannot be dumped into the road.

Bill Payment Scams

BGE urges customers to verify the identity of callers regarding their account, particularly when the call regards payments.

Scammers have asked customers to pay their BGE bills using a gift card or prepaid "Green Dot" card. This is to steal personal financial information. Occasionally, the scam incorporates a phone number for customers to call and they hear a fake BGE voice recording. Legitimate BGE employees will never ask customers to pay their bill by purchasing a cash gift card.

If you receive a call claiming that your BGE service will be terminated unless you make a payment by purchasing a cash gift card, hang up immediately, contact local law enforcement and then report the incident to BGE by calling 800.685.0123.

Summer Foreign Travel

Parents and teens interested in learning about Columbia Association's (CA) annual summer Sister Cities High School Exchange program are invited to attend one of four informational sessions.



The sessions will take place on Thursday, November 19; Monday, December 7; Thursday, January 14; and Wednesday, January 27. All sessions are scheduled to be held from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place in the Oakland Mills Village Center.

The program includes a presentation, Q & A session, and teen and parent alumni of the program sharing their experiences. For more information, visit the [website](#).

Exceptional Gifts for Family and Friends

Town Center and Hickory Ridge will host craft shops featuring distinctive handmade gifts.

Town Center Community Association will host its annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday, November 21, 2015 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Historic Oakland. This is a juried event featuring handmade crafts, gifts and food from 40+ vendors. Admission is free.

Guests can enjoy free light refreshments while strolling throughout the manor in search of beautiful and unique gifts at 40 vendor tables. Hand-crafted items offered at this juried fair include Jewelry, Pottery, Fiber Art, Photography, Watercolor Prints, Scarves, Woodworking, Knits, Folk Art, Soaps and Lotions, Petite Cheesecakes, Truffles, Pastries and more. Please visit www.ColumbiaTownCenter.org for more information.

Hickory Ridge will hold its annual Holiday Craft Shop on Sunday, November 22, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. at Hawthorn Center, 6751 Sunny Spring, Columbia. Find unique, handcrafted gifts for your family, friends or you! Discover one-of-a-kind jewelry, scarves, photography, paper crafts, bath products, candies, baked goods, ceramics, and more. All items are reasonably-priced and handmade. FREE admission. Support local artisans and complete your holiday shopping.



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